

MARS

11



by Fuyumi Soryo

MARS 11



そら りょう ふう
惣領冬実



Volume 11
By Fuyumi Soryo



LOS ANGELES • TOKYO • LONDON

Translator - Shirley Kubo
English Adaptation - Elizabeth Hurchalla
Contributing Editor - Jodi Bryson
Retouch and Lettering - Sean Chang
Cover Layout - Anna Kembaum

Editor - Julie Taylor
Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
Production Coordinator - Antonio DePietro
Production Manager - Jennifer Miller
Art Director - Matthew Atford
Director of Editorial - Jeremy Ross
VP of Production & Manufacturing - Ron Klamert
President & C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher & C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

Email: editor@TOKYOPOP.com

Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

A  **TOKYOPOP** Manga

TOKYOPOP® is an imprint of Max Entertainment, Inc.
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000, Los Angeles, CA 90036

© 1996 Fuyumi Soryo. First published in 1996 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo. English publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

English text © 2003 by Max Entertainment, Inc.
TOKYOPOP is a registered trademark of Max Entertainment, Inc.

All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders. This manga is a work of fiction.

Any resemblance to actual events or locales or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

ISBN: 1-59182-130-4

First TOKYOPOP® printing: June 2003

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in the USA

MARS

LEGEND OF MARS

THE STORY UNTIL NOW:

KIRA FALLS FOR REI WHEN SHE SEES HIM KISSING A STATUE OF MARS IN THE ART STUDIO, AND SOON THEY START GOING OUT. BUT WHEN KIRA AND HER MOM MOVE BACK IN WITH THE MAN WHO RAPED HER DURING JUNIOR HIGH, REI AND KIRA'S RELATIONSHIP IS TORN APART, HOWEVER, THEY SOON FIND THEY CAN'T STAY AWAY FROM EACH OTHER AND GET BACK TOGETHER. WHEN KIRA'S STEPFATHER STARTS GRIELING HER ABOUT HER RELATIONSHIP WITH REI, SHE HAS FLASHBACKS OF HER HORRIBLE PAST AND FEELS SUCH HATRED TOWARD HER STEPFATHER THAT SHE ENDS UP SERIOUSLY INJURING HIM. AFTERWARD, SHE MOVES IN WITH REI AND DECIDES TO OFFER ALL OF HERSELF TO HIM. MEANWHILE, REI RESOLVES TO PROTECT KIRA AND ASKS HER TO MARRY HIM. HE DROPS OUT OF SCHOOL AND TRIES TO BECOME A PRO MOTORCYCLE RACER..



REI KUROKAWA:
A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO RACES MOTORCYCLES AND IS ENGAGED TO KIRA. HIS FATHER/DAD IS DEAD.



KIRA'S STEPFATHER:
THE MAN WHO RAPED KIRA AND IS HARRIED TO KIRA'S MOTHER.



KIRA YAMATO:
REI'S GIRLFRIEND. SHE HAS LONG PINK HAIR AND IS ENGAGED TO REI. SHE ALSO STUDIES IN JUNIOR HIGH.



NAIGUN TODOROKI:
KIRA'S BILLY BOY FRIEND. SHE AND KIRA WERE TOGETHER.



GOOD MORNING.

THE LONG SUMMER VACATION
IS NOW OVER.

TO ALL YOU STUDENTS OUT
THERE, GOOD LUCK WITH
THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!!

3-D



REI?



BESIDES,
TODAY'S
THE OPENING
ASSEMBLY. I CAN'T
BELIEVE YOU
ACTUALLY CAME
TO SCHOOL.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE SO
EARLY?



I WANTED TO
BE OUT OF HERE
BY THE TIME
PEOPLE STARTED
SHOWING UP,
BUT...



I LEFT
SOME
STUFF
HERE,

SO I
JUST
CAME TO
GET IT...

...I LOOKED
OUT THE
WINDOW
AND GOT ALL
SENTIMEN-
TAL.



WELL,

THAT'S THE
DEAL.

SEE YA.



WHAT?!

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

SEE YA?



HEY,
WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?

IS
THAT
YOU,
KEI?

HEEEY!

YOU'RE
GOING
THE WRONG
WAY...



HEEEEEY!



HE WAS
BARELY
GOING TO
GRADUATE
ANYWAY.

SO KASHINO
REALLY
DROPPED
OUT...

HIS FATHER
MUST BE
CRUSHED.

HE WAS
REALLY PUSHING
FOR HIS SON TO
GRADUATE.

HE'S PROBABLY
GIVEN UP
ALL HOPE NOW.

HOW DARE HE...
WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT
WITH ME!!

HOW
TERRIBLE!

WHY WOULD HE DISCUSS
IT WITH YOU?!

!

HARUMI!

GUESS
WHAT?!

IF IT'S
ABOUT REI
DROPPING
OUT, I KNOW
ALREADY.

NO, NO,
THAT'S
NOT IT.

KIRA'S FATHER
CALLED MY HOUSE
LAST NIGHT.

HEY,
DID YOU HEAR?
REI DROPPED
OUT OF
SCHOOL...

NO
WAY!

ARE YOU
SERIOUS?!

TOTALLY
SERIOUS!

NO WAY!
I DON'T
BELIEVE IT!





SWOOSH

AAHI



OH NO,
THE
LAUNDRY!



THIS BUILDING
IS PRETTY OLD,
SO IT'S
PRACTICALLY
FALLING APART.

THEY'RE
PLANNING ON
TEARING IT
DOWN IN
A COUPLE
OF YEARS.

WHAT?
THIS APARTMENT
IS GETTING TORN
DOWN?

YUPI
THAT'S WHY WE
GET A DEAL
ON RENT.



KIRA,
DON'T
DO
THAT.

IT'S
DANGER-
OUS.



THAT RAILING
IS RUSTED.
DON'T GET TOO
CLOSE TO IT.

SO THIS
PLACE WON'T
BE HERE MUCH
LONGER.

OH...



THAT
MAKES ME
SAD.

I KIND OF
LIKED THIS
BUILDING.

WHAAAT?
A
CRUMMY
OLD
BUILDING
LIKE
THIS?

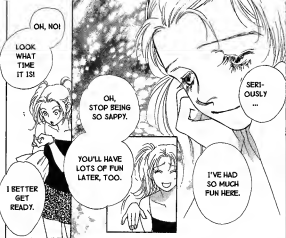


...I HAVEN'T
SEEN HERE FOR
THAT LONG,
BUT I HAVE
A LOT OF
MEMORIES OF
THIS PLACE.

YEAH.

BECAUSE...





HHH...
I GUESS THIS PART
RIGHT HERE
IS MORE...

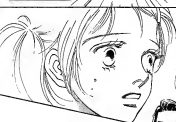


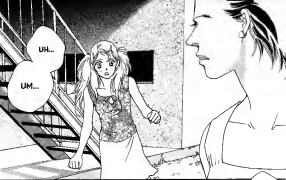


THAT
WOMAN...!



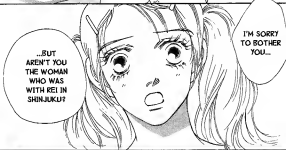
...SHE WAS
THE ONE
WITH REI
IN SHINJUKU
THAT DAY.





UM...

UM...



...BUT
AREN'T YOU
THE WOMAN
WHO WAS
WITH REI IN
SHINJUKU?

I'M SORRY
TO BOTHER
YOU...







NICE TO
MEET YOU.

MY NAME'S
SONOKO SHIINA.
REI'S FATHER
ASKED ME
TO COME.

I'M GLAD
I RAN INTO YOU.
I WAS JUST
LOOKING FOR
YOUR
APARTMENT.



ARE YOU
SURE ABOUT
THIS, REIF?



NO MATTER
WHAT YOU SAY,
YOU'RE STILL
ONLY IT.

YOU COULD JUST
BE GOING TO SCHOOL
AND HANGING OUT
WITH YOUR FRIENDS.



ARE YOU SURE
YOU WON'T
REGRET THIS?



I KNOW.

WHY ARE
YOU SAYING
THAT NOW?

YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
ENCOURAGED ME
TO RIDE
BY TELLING ME
I HAVE TALENT.



BUT I DIDN'T
THINK YOU'D GO SO
FAR AS TO DROP
OUT OF SCHOOL.



...WITH
YOUR
FATHER?



SO,
WHAT
HAP-
PENED...

...UH...



.....

I
THINK HE'S
DISOWNED
ME.



ANYWAY,
IT DOESN'T
MATTER ABOUT
MY FATHER
ANYMORE.



I'M SURE
HE WANTED TO
MAKE ME WHAT
YOU'D CALL...

...A RESPECTABLE
PERSON.

BUT I WANT TO
LIVE MY LIFE
IN THE 'WORLD
OF RACING.



MY TEACHERS SAY
IT'S A WASTE
BECAUSE I'M
SO CLOSE TO
GRADUATING...

BUT I FEEL LIKE
THERE'S NO POINT
IN CONTINUING TO
GO TO SCHOOL.



GOOPING
OFF WITH
MY FRIENDS...

...AND
PICKING UP
GIRLS
AT NIGHT...

ALL THAT WAS FUN,
BUT I DON'T NEED
IT ANYMORE.



THE PLACE WHERE
I CAN FULLY LIVE
MY DREAMS IS ON
THE RACETRACK.



HEH.

I KNOW
IT SEEMS
CORNY.



YOU'VE
CHANGED.



UM,
IT SEEMS
LIKE...

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?



THE
THING?

OH,

BY THE WAY,
IS EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT WITH
...THE THING?

THE
GUARANTOR
THING,
VOUCHING
FOR US...



...SO WE
CAN GET
MARRIED,
RIGHT?!

YOU'LL BE
GUARANTORS
FOR ME AND
KIRA...





I'M NOT IN A RUSH.
I JUST FEEL READY
TO BE MARRIED.



OH,
ABOUT
THAT,
REL...

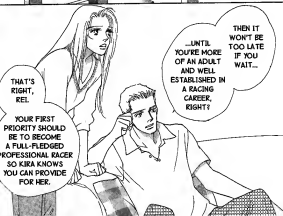


...YOU'RE BOTH
STILL SO YOUNG,
AND THERE'S NO
REASON TO RUSH
INTO MARRIAGE.



I UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU WANT
TO MARRY KIRA,

HOWEVER...



THAT'S
RIGHT,
REL

YOUR FIRST
PRIORITY SHOULD
BE TO BECOME
A FULL-FLEDGED
PROFESSIONAL RACER
SO KIRA KNOWS
YOU CAN PROVIDE
FOR HER.

THEN IT
WOULDN'T BE
TOO LATE
IF YOU
WAIT...

...UNTIL
YOU'RE MORE
OF AN ADULT
AND WELL
ESTABLISHED IN
A RACING
CAREER,
RIGHT?



I NEVER HAD
STRONG TIES
TO MY FAMILY,
EVEN WHEN
I WAS LITTLE...

SO I DON'T
REALLY
UNDERSTAND
IT, BUT...



KIRA
JUST WANTS
A FAMILY.



KIRA
DOESN'T
CARE
ABOUT
THAT.



SHE
JUST...



SO SHE KNOWS
HOW GOOD
IT IS TO
BE PART OF
A FAMILY.

KIRA LIVED
WITH HER REAL
FATHER UNTIL
SHE WAS 10.



THAT'S WHY
I WANT TO BE
ABLE TO GIVE HER
THE ONE THING
SHE REALLY WANTS.

THAT SEEMS
SO SAD...

...THAT WHAT
SHE WANTS
IS...
A FAMILY.

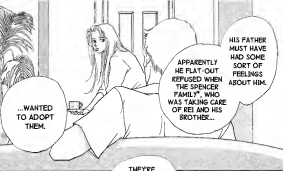
USUALLY,
AT YOUR AGE,
YOUR FAMILY
SEEMS MORE LIKE
A BURDEN...



I WONDER WHAT
YOUR FATHER
REALLY THINKS
OF YOU.

DON'T
SAY SUCH
AN AWFUL
THING.

HE PROBABLY
JUST THINKS
OF ME AS
SOME OTHER
GUY'S KID.



...WANTED
TO ADOPT
THEM.

APPARENTLY
HE FLAT-OUT
REFUSED WHEN
THE SPENCER
FAMILY*, WHO
WAS TAKING CARE
OF REI AND HIS
BROTHER...

HIS FATHER
MUST HAVE
HAD SOME
SORT OF
FEELINGS
ABOUT HIM.



OH,
YEAH...



THEY'RE
THE ONLY LINK
TO THE WOMAN
HE LOVED,
EVEN IF SHE
BETRAYED
HIM.



BY THE WAY,
HOW DID REI'S
MOTHER DIE?

I DON'T
KNOW...

SPENCER AND I
COULD TALK
ABOUT ANYTHING,
BUT I WASN'T AS
CLOSE TO HIS
WIFE, AYAKO.

*THE SPENCER FAMILY:
THE FAMILY WHO LOOKED AFTER GEE AND REI WHEN THEY LIVED IN L.A.



...IT'D BE GOOD
FOR REI AND SEI
TO FORGET EVERY-
THING ABOUT THEIR
MOTHER'S DEATH.



BEFORE SHE
SENT REI AND SEI
BACK TO JAPAN,
AYAKO SAID
SOMETHING
ABOUT HOW...



THEY SHOULD
FORGET
EVERYTHING...?
WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN?



WHO
KNOWS...?



IS THAT HER PERFUME?

IT SMELLS REALLY GOOD.



EVERYTHING SHE'S WEARING
SEEMS EXPENSIVE.



DO YOU
NOT LIKE
TO TALK TO
PEOPLE?

YOU'RE
QUIET.

I GUESS SHE'S WHAT YOU
CALL A GROWN-UP WOMAN...



WELL,
I GUESS
IT'S NO
SURPRISE.

SOME STRANGE
LADY ARRIVES AND
BRINGS YOU TO
A PLACE LIKE THIS.



OH,
THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT WAS
A BIG MESS.

I SAW YOU
WITH REI
THE OTHER
DAY.

IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU'RE
A STRANGER,
EXACTLY.



TAKAYUKI—
THAT'S REI'S
FATHER...

...I WAS REALLY
TAKING REI TO
SEE HIS FATHER.

BUT HE STARTED
COMPLAINING
ABOUT HOW
HE DIDN'T WANT
TO SEE HIM.



POOR
TAKAYUKI,
TO HAVE A
SON KEEP
YOU AT
ARMY'S
LENGTH.



ISN'T REI'S
FATHER THE ONE
KEEPING REI AT
ARMY'S LENGTH?



WHY WOULD
A FATHER KEEP
HIS OWN SON AT
A DISTANCE?

BECAUSE...



IT SOUNDS LIKE
REI HAS TALKED
TO YOU ABOUT
...EVERYTHING.

REI TOLD
HIS FATHER THAT
HE'D LIKE TO
FORMALLY CUT
OFF ALL TIES
WITH HIM.

ONE OF
THE REASONS
WAS TO BE FREE
OF THE KASHINO
FAMILY.

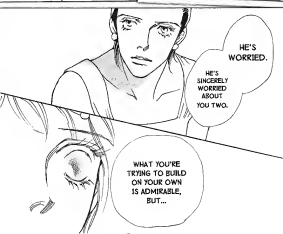
ANOTHER
WAS ABOUT
MARRYING
YOU...

IT'S TRUE
THAT THEY'RE
NOT FATHER
AND SON.

BUT TAKAYUKI
IS WORRIED
ABOUT REI
IN HIS OWN WAY.

EVEN
ABOUT
YOU...

ME?



SO...

...YOU
DON'T LIKE
ME MUCH,
THEN?

!

HE'S
WORRIED.

HE'S
SINCERELY
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU TWO.

WHAT YOU'RE
TRYING TO BUILD
ON YOUR OWN
IS ADMIRABLE,
BUT...

YOU'RE
BOTH TOO
YOUNG.



TELL REL...

HE'LL
PROBABLY
LISTEN,
IF IT COMES
FROM YOU.

...YOU SHOULDN'T
TRY TO DO
EVERYTHING ALL BY
YOURSELVES.







BUT...

CAN I BELIEVE
WHAT SHE SAID?



I WANT TO
BELIEVE HER...





MARS



HELLO?

OH...
REI?

IT'S
HARUMI.

HEY!



IT'S ABOUT
KIRA'S
FATHER.

I HEARD
SOMETHING
THAT
WORRIED
ME...

AND I
WANTED TO
TELL YOU
ABOUT IT
RIGHT
AWAY.





LIKE,
HE'S BEEN
ASKING
PEOPLE AT
SCHOOL
WHERE YOU
LIVE...

HE'S BEEN
DIGGING
AROUND
FOR INFO.

BUT I
HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO GET IN
TOUCH
WITH HER.

I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO
CALL KIRA'S
CELL,



WHEN I WAS
A KID...



...SOMEONE'S PARENTS
WOULD ALWAYS COME BY
WHEN WE WERE PLAYING
IN THE PARK...



70
16
16
16
16

70
16
16
16
16

A black and white illustration of a hallway. On the left, a door is slightly ajar. To the right, a shelf holds a stack of books and a small decorative object. The scene is lit from the left, creating a strong contrast.

... AND TELL EVERY-
ONE TO GO HOME.
THE MORE FUN YOU
WERE HAVING, THE
MORE IT FELT LIKE...

A black and white illustration of a woman and a man in a dark room. The woman, in the foreground, has long hair and wears a floral dress. The man, in the background, wears a short-sleeved shirt and patterned pants. Two large, dark, circular shapes resembling eyes are visible in the upper part of the frame.

...THE END OF THE WORLD.



SO YOU
REALLY ARE
HERE.

WE
WERE
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU.

KIRAI

YOUR
MOTHER SAID
YOU WERE
PROBABLY AT
THAT GUY
KASHINO'S
PLACE...

I CALLED
ALL OF
YOUR FRIENDS
AT SCHOOL TO
FIND YOU...

YOU
MUST
HAVE
BEEN
LONELY.
IT'LL
BE ALL
RIGHT
NOW.

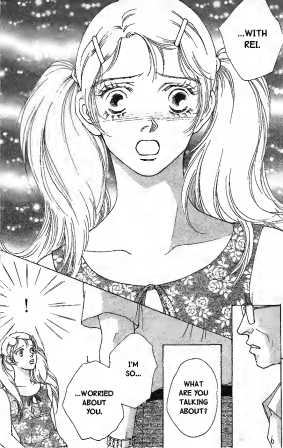
LET'S GO
HOME.



MY HOME
ISN'T WITH
YOU.

MY
HOME
IS...

GET
AWAY
FROM
ME!



...WITH
REL.



...WORRIED
ABOUT
YOU.

I'M
SO...



WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



SO GO HOME!

I DON'T
EVER WANT
TO SEE
YOUR FACE
AGAIN.



DON'T BE
STUPID,

TALKING
ABOUT
MAR-
RIAGE...



WHY
ARE YOU
SAYING
SUCH
THINGS?!

JUST
LEAVE ME
ALONE.

STOP IT!



I'M...
GOING TO
MARRY
REI.



I
DON'T
NEED
YOU ANY-
MORE.

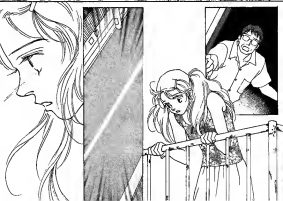
YOU...
OR
MOM.



CRASH



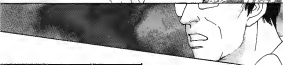








IF YOU COME
ANY CLOSER,
I'LL JUMP...!!



CAN'T
YOU SEE
HOW MUCH
I LOVE
YOU?



WHY?

WHY GO
SO FAR TO
GET AWAY
FROM ME?

WHAT ARE
YOU SAYING?
HOW WOULD
YOU KNOW?

YOU DON'T
LOVE ME.

THAT'S
NOT
LOVE...

I KNOW.

!

BECAUSE
REI
TAUGHT
ME...

...WHAT
REAL
LOVE IS.





I WAS JUST
A CONVENIENT
PARTNER
FOR YOU.

THE ONLY
REASON
YOU'RE
ATTACHED
TO ME...

...IS
BECAUSE
I WAS
TOO YOUNG
TO RESIST.



MY
FEELINGS
DIDN'T
MATTER
AT ALL.

ALL YOU
CARED ABOUT
WAS WHAT YOU
WANTED...

ALL YOU DID
WAS ENJOY
YOURSELF AND
DO AS YOU
PLEASUED TO ME.



THAT'S NOT
LOVE!

YOU'RE
WRONG!



WHY
CAN'T YOU
UNDER-
STAND...

...HOW MUCH
I CARE
ABOUT YOU?

!

NO...!

KIRAI!!





REI.

Y...

YOU'RE
THE ONE
FEEDING
KIRA LIES...!

IT'S YOU.



BRINGING
MY DAUGHTER
TO A PLACE
LIKE THIS!

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING?

DAUGHTER?

WHAT
ARE
YOU...

...TALKING
ABOUT?

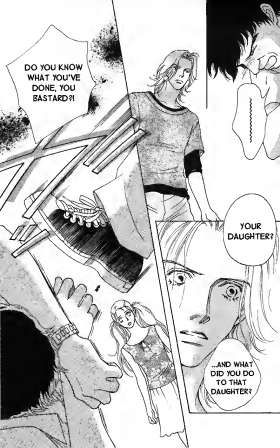


GET
YOUR HANDS
OFF ME.

GET YOUR
FILTHY HANDS
OFF OF ME!







DO YOU KNOW
WHAT YOU'VE
DONE, YOU
BASTARD?!

YOUR
DAUGHTER?

...AND WHAT
DID YOU DO
TO THAT
DAUGHTER?



YOU...

YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO
DOESN'T
GET IT.

DO YOU EVEN
UNDERSTAND
YOUR SITUATION
RIGHT NOW?

NO MATTER
HOW HARD YOU
TRY TO TAKE
KIRA...

...SHE'S STILL MY
DAUGHTER.

WHAT YOU'RE
DOING IS
THE SAME THING
AS KIDNAPPING.



A man with long hair, wearing a dark t-shirt and light-colored cargo pants, stands on the left. He is looking down at a young boy on the right. The boy is kneeling on the ground, looking up at the man with a pleading or desperate expression. A large speech bubble is positioned above the boy.

I CAN
PRESS CHARGES
AGAINST
YOU.



A close-up of a young woman's face. She has long, light-colored hair and a concerned or questioning expression. A speech bubble is next to her.

ALL YOU'VE
GOT IS
YOUR
YOUTH,
RIGHT?



A close-up of a young man's face. He has dark hair and is looking down with a somber or determined expression. A speech bubble is next to him.

NO MATTER
HOW TOUGH
YOU ARE,
KIDS ARE
JUST KIDS.

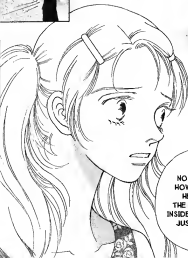


THE ONLY THING
YOU KNOW
HOW TO DO
IS PICK UP
WOMEN.



THE ONLY
THING ABOUT
YOU TEENAGERS
THAT'S ADULT
ARE YOUR
BODIES...

...WALKING
AROUND
TOWN,
THINKING
YOU'RE
GROWN UP...



KIRA...
ALL YOU'RE
SEEING IS
WHAT'S ON
THE SURFACE.

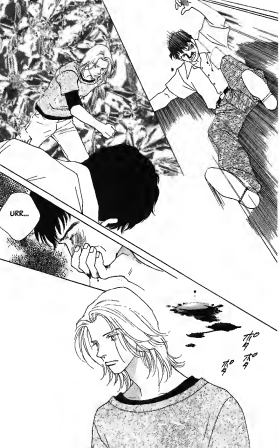
NO MATTER
HOW PRETTY
HE IS ON
THE OUTSIDE,
INSIDE HE'S STILL
JUST A BOY.



THAT'S
RIGHT...

YOU'RE
NOT MUCH
DIFFERENT
FROM ME.

WE'RE
ALL PART OF
THE SAME
GANG.



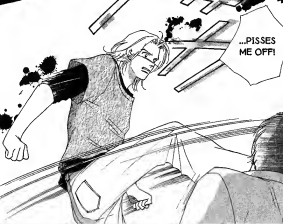


YOUR
BLOOD'S
THE SAME
COLOR
AS MINE.

WOW.



THAT...



...PISES
ME OFF!



...THAT YOU
HAVE JUST
AS MUCH
RIGHT TO LIVE
AS I DO...

WHEN I
THINK ABOUT
YOUR LIFE
CARRYING THE
SAME WEIGHT
AS MINE...

...I
FEEL
PISSSED.

KRAK



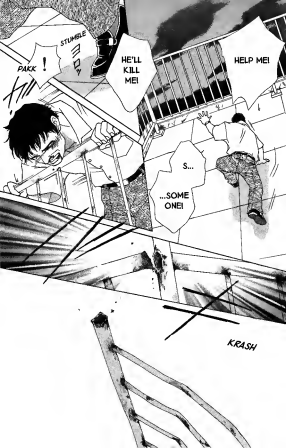
HEL...



THWACK

THWACK

YOU
PISS ME
OFF!



PARK !

STUMBLE

HE'LL
KILL
ME!

HELP ME!

S...

...SOME
ONE!

KRASH



HELP ME,
PLEASE!

HELP ME,
PLEASE!

HELP ME!

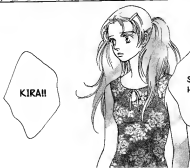
I'M GONNA
FALL!







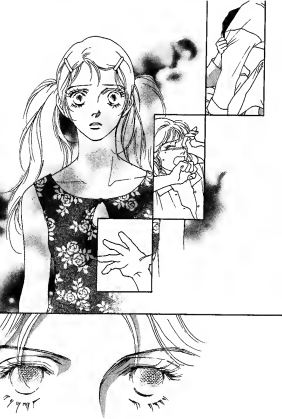
KIRAI



KIRAI!!

STOP
HIM...

P...
PLEASE.



GO AWAY.







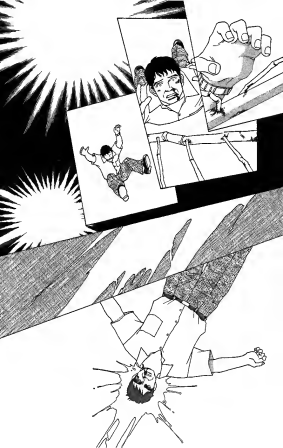
MARS







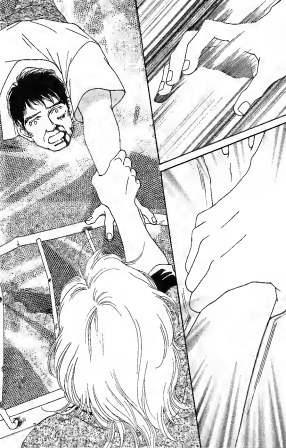




HOW DID IT FEEL WHEN
YOUR BROTHER DIED?

HOW DID YOU FEEL SEEING A DEAD BODY
THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE YOU?





YOU
BASTARD...

はっ

D...

...DAM-
MIT.

WHY?







DAMMIT.

DAMMIT.

DAMMIT!









HELP!

THERE'S A
MURDERER
ON THE
ROOF!



WE HAVE TO
GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE
THINGS GET
ANY MESSIER.



REI,
WHERE
ARE WE
GOING?

REI?!



WHERE-
EVER...

WE JUST
HAVE TO GET
AWAY FROM
HERE.







I WONDER
IF HE CALLED
THE POLICE?



I WONDER.



HMM...





BUT IF HE
REALLY
DOES...

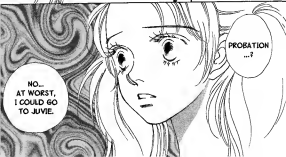
HE SAID
HE WOULD
PRESS
CHARGES,
BUT...

...HE CAN'T
DO THAT.



...INTENT
TO KILL...

KIDNAP-
PING,
ASSAULT...



NO...
AT WORST,
I COULD GO
TO JUVIE.

PROBATION
...?



ALL OF
THIS IS MY
FAULT...



I'M
SORRY.



I'M SO
PATHETIC...



IT'S NOT
YOUR
FAULT.



BUT YOU
DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING
WRONG.

YOU
DIDN'T
KIDNAP
ME.

IN THE EYES
OF THE LAW,
THAT'S WHAT
THIS IS.

HE'S YOUR
OFFICIAL
GUARDIAN...



IT'S JUST
LIKE THAT
GRIEP
SAID...

THE ONLY
THING I'VE GOT
IS MY YOUTH.

I DON'T HAVE
THE POWER
TO PROTECT
YOU...



I DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING...



HE'S WORRIED...

...THAT YOU'RE
TOO YOUNG...



DON'T TRY TO
DO EVERYTHING
YOURSELVES.



SONOKO SHINA
COMPANY



HEY.

LET'S TRY
CALLING
MS. SHINAI





HOW...

...DO YOU
KNOW
ABOUT
SONOKO?

I MET
HER!

I...
SHE CAME BY
THE HOUSE
WHILE YOU
WERE OUT.

SHE WAS
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.

SHE SAID
YOUR
FATHER'S
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU,
TOO...

SO...

BUT...

HOW
COULD
I...

...AT THIS
POINT?

HOW THE HELL
COULD I GO TO
THEM NOW?!



AFTER SAYING I
WOULD NEVER NEED
HIS HELP AGAIN...

REI...

HOW COULD
I GO TO HIM
WITH MY TAIL
TUCKED
BETWEEN
MY LEGS?



YEAH,
LET'S RUN
AWAY.

LET'S
RUN
AWAY.

ANYWHERE,
AS LONG AS
THEY CAN'T COME
AFTER US...

WE'RE
LEAVING
THIS PLACE
FIRST THING
TOMOR-
ROW!

WE'LL
COME UP
WITH SOMETHING.

EVEN
IF YOU HAD A
PASSPORT,
IT'D BE
AT YOUR PARENTS'
HOUSE...

OH,
WAIT.

HAVE
YOU BEEN
OVER-
SEAS?

KIRA,
DO YOU
HAVE A PASS-
PORT?

REI?



IF THE COPS
ARE THERE,
WE'LL DEAL
WITH IT
THEN...

AT DAWN,
WE'LL GO BACK
TO THE APART-
MENT AND GET
SOME THINGS.



BUT...

NO. I'M NOT
SCARED OF
ANYTHING
WHEN I'M
WITH YOU.



ARE
YOU
SCARED?

!



WHAT ABOUT
YOUR RACING
CAREER?

ARE YOU
OKAY WITH
THIS?



IF THIS IS
HOW THINGS
GO, YOUR
FUTURE...





PLEASE,
DON'T TALK
ABOUT THE
FUTURE...

ALL I CAN
THINK ABOUT
IS WHAT'S IN
FRONT OF ME
RIGHT NOW.





MAYBE I
SHOULD HAVE
KILLED HIM...



I WONDER
WHY I
COULDN'T.



YOU
PROBABLY
KNEW...



...KILLING THAT
MAN WOULDN'T
DO ANYTHING.



IT'S A
FAIRY
TALE...

HEY,
DO YOU
KNOW THIS
STORY?



I TOLD
YOU IT'S
A FAIRY
TALE!

I THOUGHT
TREES WERE
HERMAPHRO-
DITES?

A LOVE
STORY
BETWEEN
A STRONG
BOY TREE IN
A FOREST—
GIRL TREE.

THE TWO TREES STOOD
NEXT TO EACH OTHER AT THE EDGE
OF THE FOREST.

BUT NO MATTER HOW MUCH
THEY LOVED EACH OTHER,
THEY COULDN'T TOUCH ONE ANOTHER...

SOMETIMES THE WIND
WOULD BLOW, AND THEIR
BRANCHES WOULD TOUCH.



BUT THE GIRL TREE
WAS STILL REALLY SAD.



I TOLD
YOU,
IT'S A
FAIRY
TALE!

STOP
INTER-
RUPTING!

IT'D BE
FREAKY
IF TREES
STARTED
MOVING
AROUND ON
THEIR OWN.

THEY BOTH ENDED UP
DYING, BUT...

ONE DAY,
THERE WAS A FIRE IN THE FOREST,
AND THE TWO TREES WERE
ENGULFED IN FLAMES.



AS THEY WERE BURNING,
THE TWO TREES TURNED INTO ONE CLOUD
OF SMOKE AND CLIMBED INTO THE SKY.

BUT THE GIRL TREE
WAS HAPPY...

WHEN
I READ THAT
STORY
A LONG
TIME AGO,
IT MADE ME
CRY.

BUT...

...BECAUSE THE TWO TREES
WERE FINALLY ABLE TO
BECOME ONE.



...NOW,
I'M KIND OF
ENVOUS OF
THEM.

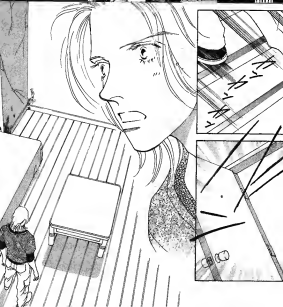






!

KIRAI





I'M GOING BACK HOME.

-KIRA



THANK YOU,

THANK YOU,

THANK YOU.

GOODBYE...





HEY YOU,
HOLD IT
A MINUTE!



I DIDN'T WANT
TO COME HERE,
EITHER...

...BUT I
NEED TO SEE
MY FATHER...
RIGHT NOW.

ARE
YOU A
STUDENT?

YOU CAN'T
JUST COME
IN HERE
LIKE THAT.

YOUR FATHER?
IS YOUR FATHER
AN EMPLOYEE
HERE?

THIS IS A PLACE
OF BUSINESS,
NOT SOME
HANGOUT FOR
KIDS.

I KNOW.
I'LL LEAVE AS
SOON AS I'M
FINISHED
WITH MY
BUSINESS.

YEAH...



HE'S
THE
PRESIDENT.
KASHINO.

HE'S HERE,
ISN'T HE?



LET GO
OF ME!

HURRY,
NOTIFY
THE
POLICE!

SHUT
UP!





REI?





YOU'RE
KIDDING!

TH...
THAT'S
JUNIOR?

JUST
COME
ON...

WHAT ABOUT
HE IS
SUSPICIOUS?

I THINK
HE'S THE
REAL
THING.

THE
PRESIDENT'S
SECRETARY
SEEMS TO
THINK SO...



WE'RE
TERRIBL
SORRY!

YOU
GUYS
ARE
GETTING
A PAY
CUT!

IT'S OKAY,
JUST COME
OVER HERE.

IT'S
NOT
OKAY!



THE WAY
YOU'RE
DRESSED,
ANYONE
WOULD
THINK THAT.

THEY
TREATED
ME LIKE A
CRIMINAL!

NO
WAY...



YOU...

YOU AND MY
FATHER KNEW
ALL ALONG,
DIDN'T YOU?

THAT
MY LIFE
WITH KIRA
WOULDN'T
LAST...!



...BARGING
INTO THE
OFFICE
LIKE
THAT?

JUST
WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING...

I HAD NO
CHOICE...

DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN
WITH YOUR
GIRL-
FRIEND?

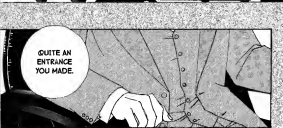


I DON'T
CARE WHAT
YOU SAY
TO ME...

...OR WHAT
YOU THINK
OF ME.

TURNING TO
MY FATHER IS
ALL I CAN DO
RIGHT NOW.



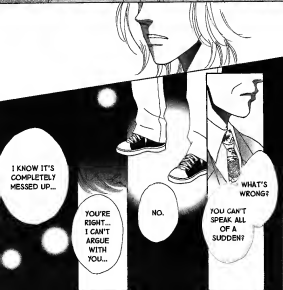




I HAVE NO
DESIRE TO
BE PUSHED
AROUND BY YOUR
SELFISHNESS.

BUT
WE'RE
VERY
BUSY
HERE.

IT'S NOT
SURPRISING,
CONSIDERING
WHO WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT.



I KNOW IT'S
COMPLETELY
MESSED UP...

YOU'RE
RIGHT...
I CAN'T
ARGUE
WITH
YOU...

NO.

YOU CAN'T
SPEAK ALL
OF A
SUDDEN?

WHAT'S
WRONG?



BUT I HAVE
NO CHOICE
BUT TO
DEPEND ON
YOU.

I'D LIKE YOU
TO LEND ME
SOME OF YOUR
STRENGTH.

I'M ALREADY
PUSHED TO
MY LIMIT.



IS IT
MONEY?

MONEY,
YOUR
POSITION,

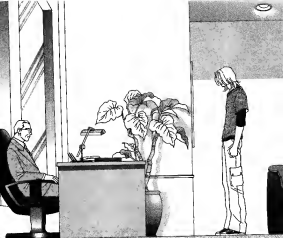
...YOUR
INFLUENCE.



PLEASE
LEND ME...

...WHATEVER
YOU HAVE.

MARS



WHAT
DID YOU
JUST
SAY?





...TO
HELP ME.

I'D LIKE
YOU TO
USE YOUR
POSITION...

YOUR MONEY,
EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE...



THERE'S
A GIRL
I'D LIKE
TO SAVE...

A GIRL
I WANT TO
SET FREE.



ARE
YOU...
...OUT OF
YOUR
MIND?





IF THAT'S
HOW YOU THINK
YOU CAN ACT, THEN
I'VE BEEN GROSSLY
UNDERESTIMATED.

NO SOONER
ARE THE
WORDS OUT
OF YOUR
MOUTH THAN
YOU COME
CRAWLING
BACK...

JUST
LAST MONTH,
YOU SAID
YOU DIDN'T
NEED
ANYONE'S
HELP.



THE WORLD
ISN'T AS
EASY AS YOU
THINK.

...DID YOU
THINK THAT
AFTER ALL
THOSE YEARS
OF NOT
LISTENING TO
A WORD I SAID,

I'D LISTEN
TO YOU?

NO MATTER
WHAT YOUR
CIRCUMSTANCES
ARE...





I DON'T
WANT TO
BE HERE
FOR EVEN
A MINUTE.

BUT...



I CAN'T
LEAVE RIGHT
NOW.

NO
MATTER
WHAT YOU
THINK OF
ME...
NO
MATTER
WHAT YOU
SAY...



!



PL...

PLEASE!

I BEG YOU.



HELP
ME...



HE SAID
WHAT I DID
WAS KIDNAP-
PING...



RIGHT
NOW...

I'M AFRAID
HER STEPFATHER
MIGHT
PRESS CHARGES
AGAINST ME.



...I WON'T BE
ABLE TO
PROTECT HER
ANYMORE.

I DON'T
CARE WHAT
HAPPENS
TO ME.

BUT...

...IF I END UP
IN JAIL...



IF YOU
HAVE
A PROBLEM
WITH MY
ATTITUDE,
I'LL
CHANGE.

I'LL DO
WHATEVER
YOU SAY.



IF YOU
TELL ME TO GO
TO SCHOOL,
I'LL START
GOING AGAIN.

IF YOU
TELL ME TO
MOVE BACK
HOME, I'LL
MOVE BACK.



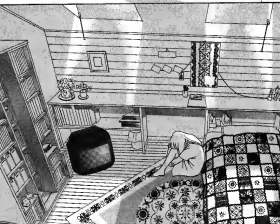


I'LL
QUIT...

...RIDING
MOTORCYCLES.









I MADE
DINNER.
DO YOU WANT
TO COME
DOWNSTAIRS?

KIRA?

YOU'RE
AWAKE,
AREN'T
YOU?



I
WONDER...

...IF
I DON'T EAT
OR DRINK
ANYTHING...

...HOW LONG
IT'LL TAKE
BEFORE
I DIE?



IT'S NO
USE. LET'S
LEAVE HER
ALONE FOR
NOW.

SHE'LL
COME TO
HER SENSES
EVENTUALLY.



WHERE
IS
KIRA?



BUT THAT'S
SOMETHING KIRA
DID OF HER OWN
FREE WILL.

ARE
YOU...
...GOING TO
PRESS CHARGES
AGAINST THAT
KASHINO BOY?

YOU'RE DAMN
RIGHT I AM.
KEEPING KIRA
LOCKED UP IN A
PLACE LIKE THAT
FOR TWO MONTHS!



I WAS
ALMOST
KILLED BY
THAT BOY!



BUT...

...THE
PROBLEM
ISN'T OUR
FEELINGS...

IT'S
KIRA'S...

!

NO MATTER
WHAT KIND OF
PERSON HE IS,
IF KIRA'S
HAPPY WITH
HIM...



I CAN'T
STAND
AROUND...

...AND WATCH
A GUY LIKE
THAT HANG
AROUND KIRA.



YOU DIDN'T
LIKE THAT BOY
EITHER.





YOU SAY
THAT...

...BUT DO YOU
THINK WE CAN
MAKE HER
HAPPY?

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT...?

THERE'S
NO WAY KIRA
COULD BE
HAPPY WITH
A GUY LIKE
THAT!



MOTHER...?!

WH...?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN...

...BY
THAT?



↑
12
12
12
12
↑
12
12
12
12



—
LAW-
YER?

HELLO.
I'M TERRIBLY
SORRY TO BE
CALLING YOU OUT
OF THE BLUE.

MY NAME IS
TAKIGAWA, AND
I'M A LAWYER...



HELLO?



I'VE BEEN ASKED
TO CONTACT YOU
REGARDING REI
KASHINO, BY HIS
FATHER.

I'D LIKE TO
APOLOGIZE ON
HIS BEHALF FOR
THE TROUBLE
THAT YOU'VE
ENDURED AS A
RESULT OF THIS
INCIDENT.

I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT ANY
APOLOGY,

BUT I'M
PLANNING ON
PRESSING
CHARGES
AGAINST HIM FOR
ATTEMPTED
MURDER AND
KIDNAPPING.



I UNDERSTAND
HOW YOU FEEL,
BUT REI HAS A
FUTURE AHEAD
OF HIM, TOO.

I'D LIKE
TO SUGGEST
SETTLING THIS
MATTER
QUIETLY.

I DON'T
CARE ABOUT
YOUR CLIENT
OR HIS
NO-GOOD
SON.



I REALLY
THINK IT
WOULD BE
TO YOUR
ADVANTAGE...

...NOT TO
TAKE IT TO
COURT.



LET'S
SETTLE THIS
IN COURT.



!

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

MR. KASHINO
ALSO HAS
HIS POSITION
TO THINK
ABOUT.

JUST AS YOU
HAVE YOUR
POSITION AS
A MANAGER,



YES...

I
UNDER-
STAND.

NO...
THAT'S NOT
WHAT I
MEANT...



NO,

THERE'S
NO WAY.



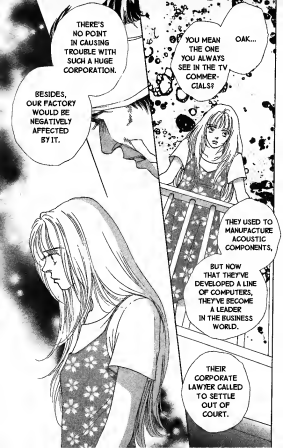
HONEY?

THE PRESIDENT
OF THE OAK
GROUP...
HE'S TAKAYUKI
KASHINO'S SON!

I
DON'T
BELIEVE
IT!

HE'S
KASHINO'S
SON.





THERE'S
NO POINT
IN CAUSING
TROUBLE WITH
SUCH A HUGE
CORPORATION.

BESIDES,
OUR FACTORY
WOULD BE
NEGATIVELY
AFFECTED
BY IT.

YOU MEAN
THE ONE
YOU ALWAYS
SEE IN THE TV
COMMER-
CIALS?

OAK...

THEY USED TO
MANUFACTURE
ACOUSTIC
COMPONENTS,

BUT NOW
THAT THEY'VE
DEVELOPED A LINE
OF COMPUTERS,
THEY'VE BECOME
A LEADER
IN THE BUSINESS
WORLD.

THEIR
CORPORATE
LAWYER CALLED
TO SETTLE
OUT OF
COURT.



I WOULD SAY
IT'S 40%
SETTLED
AS OF NOW.

HE IS STILL A
BUSINESSMAN,
NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS.

HE
UNDERSTANDS
HIS POSITION
VERY WELL.

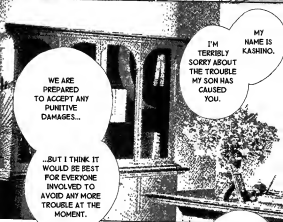


WELL,
LET ME TAKE
CARE OF THE
REMAINING
20%.





HELLO,
IS THIS
MR. ASO?



WE ARE
PREPARED
TO ACCEPT ANY
PUNITIVE
DAMAGES...

...BUT I THINK IT
WOULD BE BEST
FOR EVERYONE
INVOLVED TO
AVOID ANY MORE
TROUBLE AT THE
MOMENT.

I'M
TERRIBLY
SORRY ABOUT
THE TROUBLE
MY SON HAS
CAUSED
YOU.

MY
NAME IS
KASHINO.



EXCUSE ME FOR
SAYING THIS, BUT
IT SEEMS THAT
BUSINESS ISN'T
VERY GOOD FOR
YOUR COMPANY
RIGHT NOW.

IT MAY BE
PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME,
BUT WE'D LIKE TO DO
WHAT WE CAN TO BE OF
ANY ASSISTANCE UNDER
THE CIRCUMSTANCES...



IS THAT SO?
WELL, THAT'S
SOMETHING
I WOULDN'T
WISH UPON
YOU.

THE
WORLD
BEING
THE WAY
IT IS.

WE CAN
SORT OF
THINK OF
THIS AS
FATE...



LET'S
CERTAINLY
CONTINUE TO
HELP EACH
OTHER FROM
NOW ON.





LEAVE
THE REST
TO US.

DON'T
WORRY.



HAVE
YOU
EATEN?

DO YOU
WANT TO
GO GET
SOMETHING?

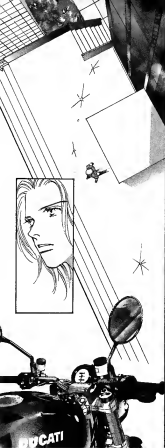
THERE'S
SOME PLACE
I HAVE TO
GO NOW...

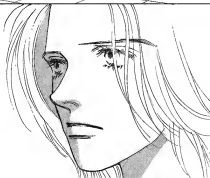
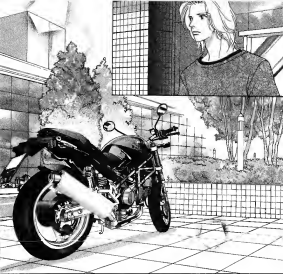
I SEE.

THEN
MAYBE NEXT
TIME...











HE'S TAKA YUKI
KASHINO'S
SON.

THERE'S NO
POINT IN CAUSING
TROUBLE WITH
SUCH A HUGE
CORPORATION...

I CAN'T
BELIEVE REI'S
THE SON OF
SOMEONE
LIKE THAT...

WE'RE REALLY
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU.



DING
DONG

60
20
10
1

I'M NOT
HIS REAL SON...

IT DOESN'T
MATTER
ANYMORE...

AS LONG AS
REI'S SAFE,
THAT'S
ENOUGH...





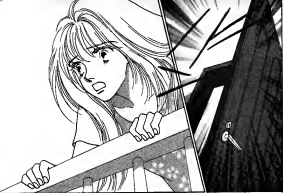
I MADE
A WRONG
TURN FROM
THE TRAIN
STATION...
UM...

UM...

I'M
SORRY
TO COME
HERE SO
LATE...

IT WAS
MY FIRST TIME
WALKING
HERE.







I ACTED
THOUGHTLESSLY
SO MANY
TIMES.

I'M
REALLY
SORRY
ABOUT
THAT.

FIRST,
I'D LIKE TO
APOLOGIZE FOR
ALL SORTS OF
THINGS...

ONE
MORE
THING...

THERE'S
SOMETHING
I REALLY NEED
TO ASK
YOU.

I'M ONLY IT...
I HAVE NOTHING
THAT ANYONE
WOULD BE
PROUD OF...

I...
...DON'T
HAVE ANY
TRAINING OR
A GOOD JOB
RIGHT
NOW...



...I WANT
TO ASK YOU
FOR KIRA'S
HAND.

BUT
I'M GOING TO
STUDY AT MY
FATHER'S
SIDE...

...AND I
PLAN ON
BECOMING A
RESPECTABLE
CITIZEN
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

THAT'S
WHY...



I'M GOING
TO BE 18
SOON...

I'LL MAKE
SURE
KIRA'S
HAPPY.

REI!



TAKE GOOD
CARE OF MY
DAUGHTER.







TO BE CONTINUED



MARS

Coming Soon...



Volume Twelve

Kira has finally left home and is on her own, but she feels safe with Rei by her side.

When Kira finally meets Rei's father, she is surprised to realize he is a familiar face from her past. As Kira and Rei explore his mansion, shocking family secrets are revealed. As Rei grapples to cope with the unearthed memories of his past, Rei leans on Kira for some much-needed support.

Manga/Romance
USA \$9.99



Back to the Future

Rei and Kira's love for each other couldn't be stronger. But in the world they live in, love isn't always enough. When Rei drops out of school, he focuses on his dreams of becoming a professional motorcycle racer. However, those dreams are threatened when Kira's stepfather re-enters the picture and attempts to sabotage Kira and Rei's serious plans for a future together. When Kira's stepfather relentlessly campaigns for Kira's acceptance, Rei is forced to turn to the last person in the world he would ever ask for help: his father. Can Kira and Rei's love overcome these obstacles?

An epic romance that spans 15 volumes, **MARS** is one of Japan's most popular comics for teen girls ever.



www.TOKYOPOP.com